

Message Text

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ACTION PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-02

SP-02 SS-15 DHA-02 IO-13 EUR-12 AF-08 CCO-00 /077 W

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FM USDEL SECRETARY IN LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 SECTO 27340

E.O.: 11652 N/A

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.), U.K.

SUBJECT: TRANSCRIPT OF CBS INTERVIEW WITH U.S. SECRETARY
OF STATE, HENRY A. KISSINGER, LONDON,
SEPTEMBER 23, 1976. INTERVIEWER - WALTER
CRONKITE (CBS).

DEPT FOR S/PRS - FRED BROWN; DEPT PASS WHITE HOUSE FOR
RON NESSEN.

CRONKITE: DR. KISSINGER ENDED HIS ELEVEN DAY AFRICAN
SHUTTLE TODAY AND FLEW TO LONDON TO BRIEF BRITISH
OFFICIALS. I WAS ABLE TO TALK WITH DR. KISSINGER BY A
SATELLITE ABOUT THE SITUATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.
DR. KISSINGER, IT APPEARS AT THIS HOUR THIS EVENING THAT
CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER. RHODESIAN SOURCES SAY THAT
PREMIER SMITH'S PARTY HAS ACCEPTED YOUR PROPOSALS TO
ACHIEVE RACIAL PEACE THERE - PROPOSALS, I KNOW,
ORIGINALLY PUT FORTH BY THE BRITISH. CAN YOU TELL US
NOW SPECIFICALLY WHAT THE PROPOSALS ARE?

KISSINGER: NO. I THINK WE SHOULD WAIT UNTIL MR. SMITH
SPEAKS TO HIS PEOPLE TOMORROW. BUT THEY FOLLOW IN THE
MAIN THE BASIC PROPOSALS THAT WERE MADE BY THE BRITISH
GOVERNMENT LAST MARCH, WHICH HAVE NOW BEEN WORKED OUT
WITH SOME MODIFICATIONS WITH THE RHODESIAN AUTHORITIES,
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APPARENTLY.

Q: DO THE MODIFICATIONS, CAN WE ASK, CHANGE THE TIME-TABLE? DO THEY STILL PROVIDE A MAJORITY RULE AFTER TWO YEARS?

A: THE TIMETABLE HAS NOT BEEN CHANGED.

Q: WE HAVE BEEN LED TO BELIEVE THAT THE PROPOSALS PROVIDE A CESSATION OF BLACK GUERRILLA ACTIVITIES DURING THE TRANSITION PERIOD. IS THAT CORRECT, SIR?

A: WELL IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN UNDERSTOOD THAT AT SOME POINT IN THIS PROCESS GUERRILLA ACTIVITY WOULD CEASE, BUT AGAIN WE ARE AT THE BEGINNING OF A VERY DELICATE PROCESS. MR SMITH HAS NOT YET SPOKEN, THE AFRICAN STATES HAVE NOT YET REACTED, NEGOTIATIONS WHICH WILL INVOLVE ALSO GREAT BRITAIN HAVE YET TO BE CONDUCTED. SO, I DON'T THINK I SHOULD GO INTO THE DETAILS BEFORE THE FIRST STEP HAS AS YET BEEN TAKEN.

Q: DR. KISSINGER, THE AFRICAN MINISTERS MET AT THE UN, TODAY, AND WE UNDERSTAND THAT SPOKESMEN FOR THE NEIGHBOURING NATIONS, TANZANIA, ZAMBIA AND MOZAMBIQUE. ALL SAID THAT THEY WOULD CONTINUE LIBERATION ACTIVITIES - GUERRILLA ACTIVITIES, IN OTHER WORDS - UNTIL THE TRANSFER OF POWER TO MAJORITY RULE ACTUALLY WAS MADE. NOW, DOES THAT SURPRISE YOU? DOES THAT THROW A BLOCK INTO THIS PROCESS?

A: NO. THIS IS CONSISTENT WITH THE DISCUSSIONS THAT HAVE BEEN TAKING PLACE. WE HAVE ALL BEEN SPEAKING TO THE AUTHORITIES IN RHODESIA, TO THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT AND TO THE BLACK AFRICAN STATES. AND WHAT IS EMERGING, HOPEFULLY, IS A CONSENSUS TO WHICH ALL PARTIES AGREE.

Q: WHAT IS THE NEXT STEP, SIR?

A: THE NEXT STEP IS THAT MR. SMITH STATES THE CIRCUMSTANCES IN WHICH HE IS PREPARED TO SOLVE THE CONSTITUTIONAL CRISES. THEN BRITAIN, AS THE COUNTRY

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THAT HAS THE CONSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITY, WILL PROBABLY SEEK TO FACILITATE A CONFERENCE BETWEEN THE BLACK NATIONALIST MOVEMENTS AND THE SETTLERS IN RHODESIA. AND THIS WILL BRING ABOUT THE NEGOTIATIONS WHICH WILL PRODUCE A FINAL SETTLEMENT.

Q: IF THIS DOESN'T WORK, DO YOU HAVE ANY OTHER PLAN TO FALLBACK ON?

A: WELL. IF WE HAD NOT MADE THIS EFFORT, THERE WOULD
HAVE BEEN A RACE WAR IN SOUTHERN AFRICA WHICH WAS ALREADY
ESCALATING WHICH WOULD HAVE BROUGHT A GREAT RISK OF

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FOREIGN INTERVENTION, AND WHICH WOULD HAVE SPREAD TO
NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES. WE HOPE THAT WE HAVE
CONTRIBUTED TO AVERTING THIS AND HAVING BROUGHT IT THIS
FAR. WE ARE NOT COUNTING ON IT FAILING.

Q: DR. KISSINGER, THERE WAS MORE RIOTING IN JOHANNESBURG
TODAY. WHEN YOU SAW PRIME MINISTER VORSTER OF SOUTH
AFRICA, DID YOU GET ANY INDICATION THAT THERE WILL BE ANY
CHANGE IN SOUTH AFRICA'S ATTITUDE TO APARTHEID AT THIS
TIME?

A: THE SOUTH AFRICAN SITUATION IS EXTREMELY COMPLICATED.
I MADE CLEAR OUR VIEWS ON THE SUBJECT AND OUR HOPE THAT
THERE WOULD BE AN EVOLUTION THAT WOULD BRING MORE HARMONY.

Q: ANY ASSURANCE FROM HIM TO GIVE YOU ENCOURAGEMENT?

A: WELL, IT'S A COMPLICATED PROCESS WHICH WILL TAKE

LONGER THAN THE ONE THAT WE HAVE NEGOTIATED IN THE LAST
FEW WEEKS.

Q: THANK YOU VERY MUCH, SECRETARY OF STATE' KISSINGER,
IN LONDON.
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